



South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES
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South Dakota Medicaid Tribal Consultation Minutes

Attendees:

Melanie Boetel, Abby Marquardt, Lisa Schlosser, Nico Sheppard, Austin Gomez, Gloria Mesteth, Kathie St John, Cathy Johnson, Renae Hericks, Matthew Ballard, Sheila Van Kuren, Ashley Lauing, Claudine Beguy, Cathy Jeffries, Ramona Simons, Leslie Wilson, Vickee Anderson, Christina Young, Brenda Finn, Vicki Gerrits, Matt Althoff, Joey Younie

Welcome and Introductions:

Heather Petermann, Director, Department of Social Services (DSS), Medical Services (DMS) welcomed the group and everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Review Minutes from January 2023 Meeting:

Ashley Lauing, Policy Strategy Manager, DSS, DMS reviewed the minutes and indicated that minutes for the meeting can be found online on the Medicaid [Tribal Consultation Website](#).

Tribal Reports:

Cathy Jeffries (Oglala Sioux Tribe)- The OST CHW agency has been working with the CHW Collaborative to start billing for CHW services. They are working specifically with maternal child health and related Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). Additionally, they are completing their enrollment as a transport provider.

IHS/UIH/Tribal 638 Reports:

Lisa Schlosser (Great Plains Tribal Leaders Health Board)- the pharmacy patch for Change Healthcare Systems is being installed IHS wide and should be implemented soon. Anticipate seeing a significant increase in pharmacy claims due to this change.

Nico Sheppard (GPTLHB)- Working with patients to use the new Medicaid eligibility system and overcoming issues they have encountered. They have switched to using paper applications in the interim while they address concerns such as lack of technology access for recipients and internet bandwidth capabilities in the facility.

Division of Behavioral Health Update:

Melanie Boetel, Director, DSS, Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) gave an update on upcoming Behavioral Health Events and opportunities:

- The 3rd annual [Suicide Prevention Conference](#) registration opens May 1, 2024. The conference is August 1st and 2nd at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.
- 988 and the Veterans Crisis Line Safe Storage Suicide Prevention Program
 - [Order a Free Gun Lock](#)
 - Business owners and healthcare facilities may order multiple sets to provide to the public. Business and facilities are not required to report back who received the lock.
 - [Order a Free Medication Lock Box](#)

Additionally, DBH has launched a new campaign called “Notes to Self” and is looking specifically for feedback from tribal partners. If you are interested in participating in an outreach group, please contact Melanie at Melanie.Boetel@state.sd.us.

CHOICES Waiver Amendment:

Joey Younie, Director, Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), presented on the CHOICES waiver amendments. The public announcement can be found on the [DDD Website](#).

Quarterly Report of Tribal Medicaid Expenditures:

Ashley Lauing provided an overview of the expenditures report. Quarterly reports of Tribal Medicaid Expenditures can be found online on the Medicaid [Tribal Consultation Website](#).

If Tribal 638 facilities are interested in entering into a care coordination agreement, they can outreach Matthew Ballard at Matthew.Ballard@state.sd.us.

Care Coordination Agreements:

Leslie Wilson, DSS, DMS presented on DSS Intergovernment Personnel Agreement (IPA) care coordination nurses that work with IHS facilities. Slides can be found on the Medicaid [Tribal Consultation Website](#).

- Brenda Finn asked how the state determines which patients are attributed to IHS and which are attributed to a Tribal 638? DSS indicated that provider enrollment records indicate if the provider is IHS or a Tribal 638.
- Ramona Simons asked how this currently impacts Tribal 638 facilities? DSS currently does not have any care coordination agreements with Tribal 638s. If they are interested in entering into an agreement, they can contact Matthew Ballard at Matthew.Ballard@state.sd.us.
- Nico Sheppard asked where the IPA nurses are located? They are located in Rapid City, Pierre, and Sioux Falls and travel to Pine Ridge/Kyle, Rosebud and Eagle Butte IHS facilities, but assist remotely with all Great Plains IHS facilities that accept SD Medicaid.
- When assisting with discharge planning, are the IPA nurses able to make follow-up appointments directly or do they need to work with schedulers? Each facility is different in what access they allow the IPA nurses to have to the system.
- Do you work with purchase referred care departments? Some PRC departments will allow the IPA nurses to assist them. The IPA nursing staff has been doing targeted outreach to facilities with the intention of reaching more staff to let them know how the IPA nurses can help.

State Plan Amendments:

Rena Hericks, Policy Manager, DSS, DMS reviewed SPAs currently in Tribal Consultation along with those currently with CMS. Slides can be found on the Medicaid [Tribal Consultation Website](#).

Medicaid Updates:

Matthew Ballard presented updates that were made to Medicaid services including rate changes for pregnancy coverage and the use of a TH modifier. He also discussed changes that were made to transportation coverage. Slides can be found on the Medicaid [Tribal Consultation Website](#).

Eligibility and Billing:

Kara Peery, DSS, Economic Assistance, was available to provide a quick update on the new Medicaid eligibility system known as BEES and answer eligibility questions. BEES went live March 5th. BEES allows for streamlined processing and will automatically check for eligibility of other programs as well. Applications are still within 2-week processing window for the most part, larger areas such as Sioux Falls have a little more lag based on caseload size.

- Austin Gomez asked is there a significant turnaround difference for paper applications vs. online applications? No, the processing time is approximately the same.
- Austin Gomez indicated they have noticed the Medicaid portal now shows some differences, is that being worked on? Yes, DSS is aware of the issues and is working to patch those. Some providers noticed that some recipients appeared to have closed eligibility due to eligibility information displaying incorrectly on the portal. This is being corrected. BEES was also sending overlapping eligibility dates. This has been corrected.
- GPTLHB indicated they have invested in more wireless routes to help increase wi-fi access for patients who are needing to apply for Medicaid in the facility or who need to have wi-fi to utilize a personal device.

No discussion or questions occurred regarding Medicaid billing.

Public Input:

- None

Next Meetings:

- 07/23/2024 – Oyate Health Center, 3200 Canyon Lake Dr. Suite 1, Rapid City, SD 57701
- 10/23/2024